

48428 to 48503—Continued.

An annual erect grass, native to India and used there for fodder. Introduced elsewhere. (Adapted from *Thiselton-Dyer, Flora of Tropical Africa*, vol. 9, pt. 3, p. 420.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 41919.

48488. *TOUNATEA MADAGASCARIENSIS* (Desv.) Kuntze. Cæsalpiniaceæ.
(*Swartzia madagascariensis* Desv.)

“(No. 147.) *N'daale*. The pod smells sweet inside, as though containing sugar; it is said to be edible for stock. Lubumbashi River, Belgian Kongo.”

An African tree, 15 to 20 feet high, with spreading, horizontal, or even drooping branchlets. The bark is whitish, and the leaves coriaceous. The space between the outer and inner layers of the coriaceous legume is filled by spongy transverse partitions inclosing resinous gummy matter. (Adapted from *Hiern, Catalogue of Welwitsch's African Plants*, pt. 1, p. 286, and *Oliver, Flora of Tropical Africa*, vol. 2, p. 257.)

48489. *TRICHOLAENA ROSEA* Nees. Poaceæ. Natal grass.

“(No. 127.) Useful hay grass.”

A perennial South African grass which does not survive the winter where the temperature falls much below freezing, so that it is usually cultivated as an annual. The seeds are produced in large clusters about the size and shape of a panicle of oats. In most cases the seed clusters are bright red or rosy crimson in color, and for that reason the grass has sometimes been called “redtop.” It is, however, very different from the common northern grass known as redtop. The plants are killed by a single plowing, and by keeping the land cultivated in other crops through the whole of a single season all the seeds in the ground will have germinated and the young plants will be killed by cultivation, so Natal grass can not become a troublesome weed. Good Natal grass hay is an excellent feed. The stems and leaves are not tough, are very palatable, and are eaten without waste. The stems are so slender that the hay makes an attractive-looking bale and so sells well on the market. The commercial use of the hay has been developed in the past few years, and wherever offered it usually brings the same price as timothy. It is easily cured, is rich in protein, and the average yield is 2½ to 3 tons per acre or about three-fourths of a ton for each cutting. When planted on favorable soil, Natal grass makes such vigorous growth as to choke out most other grasses and weeds. (Adapted from *S. M. Tracy and C. V. Piper*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 41921.

48490 to 48492. *UAPACA NITIDA* Muell. Arg. Euphorbiaceæ.

48490. “(No. 141.) *Musokolobwe*. Fruit edible. From Belgian Kongo.”

A shrub or tree, up to 50 feet high, with an erect trunk and spreading head. The entire rigid, shining leaves are crowded toward the ends of the branches. Native to Lower Guinea, Rhodesia, and German East Africa. (Adapted from *Thiselton-Dyer, Flora of Tropical Africa*, vol. 6, pt. 1, p. 639.)

48491. “(No. 160.) *Musokolobwe* (*makooba*). Fruit edible. From Elizabethville, Belgian Kongo.”